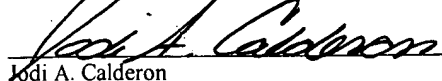




TFW

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450 on the date specified below.


Jodi A. Calderon

Date: 11-23-05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/634,715

Examiner: Aamer S. Ahmed

Filing Date: August 5, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3763

Inventor(s): Adel B. Korkor et al.

Attorney Docket No. 155.015

Invention: *Catheter Introducer Having an Expandable Tip*

Priority: Continuation-In-Part of U.S. Pat. App. 09/896,035, filed June 29, 2001

Customer Account No. 23598

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Office Action dated November 2, 2005, the Examiner restricted the claims of the above-identified application to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121, including:

- I. The species of Figure 2;
- II. The species of Figure 6;
- III. The species of Figure 13.

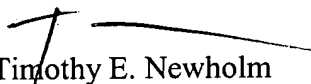
In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects the species of Group III: Figure 13, including claims 1-37, without traverse.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Response to Election of Species Requirement
dated November 2, 2005
Ser. No. 10/634,715 to Korkor et al.
Art Unit: 2834
Page 2

The Director is authorized to direct any additional fees associated with this or any other communication, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 50-1170.

Respectfully submitted,


Timothy E. Newholm
Registration No. 34400

Dated: November 23, 2005

Customer Account No.: 23598

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